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library and eighty-four of gifts to the museum have been forwarded.

Respectfully submitted,

BENJ. SHARP,  
*Corresponding Secretary.*

### REPORT OF THE LIBRARIAN.

The past year has been a most prosperous one for the library of the Academy. The entire additions amount to 10,389. Of these 6,032 are volumes, 4,111 pamphlets and parts of periodicals, and 10 maps, photographs, etc.

Nearly one-half of these accessions form the James Aitken Meigs Library, bequeathed to the Academy, together with an important pecuniary legacy, by John G. Meigs, the father of Dr. J. A. Meigs. There are many works in the collection which duplicate those already in the library of the Academy. These have not yet been separated from the other volumes. The total of accessions also includes 217 duplicates and miscellaneous works received from Mr. Meehan, in addition to 182 volumes included in the statement given below.

The current growth of the library, excluding the Meigs' bequest and the duplicates above alluded to, depended on the following sources of supply:—

Societies, . . . . .	2,462	U. S. Treasury Dep., . . .	5
I. V. Williamson Fund, . .	1,090	Geological Survey of New	
Editors, . . . . .	930	Jersey, . . . . .	5
Authors, . . . . .	187	Geological Survey of Canada,	5
Thomas Meehan, . . . . .	176	Geological and Nat. Hist.	
Charles P. Perot, . . . . .	32	Survey of Minnesota, . .	4
U. S. Dept. of Agriculture, .	29	U. S. War Dept., . . . . .	4
U. S. Dept. of the Interior, .	28	Geological Survey of India,	4
Wilson Fund, . . . . .	18	Geological Survey of Ala-	
U. S. Dept. of State, . . . .	12	bama, . . . . .	3
General Appropriation, . .	12	William J. Fox, . . . . .	3
Geological Survey of Russia,	11	U. S. Commissioners of Fish	
Tennessee State Board of		and Fisheries, . . . . .	3
Health, . . . . .	11	Illinois State Board of Agri-	
Ministry of Public Works,		culture, . . . . .	3
France, . . . . .	10	Smithsonian Institution, .	3

Bureau of Ethnology, U. S.		U. S. Coast and Geodetic	
Dept. Interior, . . . . .	3	Survey, . . . . .	1
Bentham Trustees, Kew Gar-		U. S. Dept. of Labor, . . .	1
dens, . . . . .	3	Massachusetts Commission-	
H. A. Pilsbry, . . . . .	3	ers of Inland Fisheries, .	1
California State Mining Bu-		Dept. of Mines, Nova Scotia,	1
reau, . . . . .	2	J. G. Whiteman, . . . . .	1
Philip P. Calvert, . . . . .	2	Guatemalan Government, .	1
Iowa Agricultural College, .	2	Illinois State Bureau of La-	
Iowa Geological Survey, . .	2	bor, . . . . .	1
British Government, . . .	2	C. W. Ruschenberger, . . .	1
Dept. of Mines, New South		Natural History Survey of	
Wales, . . . . .	2	Illinois, . . . . .	1
Norwegische Commission		Indian Museum Trustees, .	1
der Europäischen Grad-		H. T. Broadhurst, . . . . .	1
messung, . . . . .	2	J. Percy Moore, . . . . .	1
Comision Geológica de Mex-		B. B. Valentine, . . . . .	1
ico, . . . . .	2	Kentucky Inspector of	
British Museum, . . . . .	2	Mines, . . . . .	1
		Manchester Museum, . . .	1

The additions to the library thus credited were assigned to the several departments as follows:—

Journals, . . . . .	4,059	Anthropology, . . . . .	18
Botany, . . . . .	203	Physical Science, . . . . .	18
Geology, . . . . .	114	Mineralogy, . . . . .	14
General Natural History, .	86	Encyclopedias, . . . . .	13
Entomology, . . . . .	58	Helminthology, . . . . .	12
Voyages and Travels, . . .	43	Ichthyology, . . . . .	10
Medicine, . . . . .	40	Herpetology, . . . . .	9
Ornithology, . . . . .	37	Bibliography, . . . . .	5
Anatomy and Physiology, .	30	Chemistry, . . . . .	3
Mammalogy, . . . . .	29	Geography, . . . . .	2
Conchology, . . . . .	27	Miscellaneous, . . . . .	44
Agriculture, . . . . .	20		

The classification of the James Aitken Meigs Library is as follows:—

Anthropology, . . . . .	913	Religion, . . . . .	172
Medicine, . . . . .	708	Philology, . . . . .	160
Literature, . . . . .	656	Philosophy, . . . . .	154
History and Biography, . .	628	Voyages and Travels, . . . .	110
Anatomy and Physiology, .	535	Sociology, . . . . .	104
Journals, . . . . .	382	Fine Arts, . . . . .	76
General Natural History, . .	184	Geography, . . . . .	74

Physical Science, . . . . .	70	Entomology, . . . . .	7
Geology, . . . . .	40	Mammalogy, . . . . .	6
Botany, . . . . .	32	Mineralogy, . . . . .	4
Useful Arts, . . . . .	28	Conchology, . . . . .	2
Chemistry, . . . . .	18	Miscellaneous, . . . . .	18
Bibliography, . . . . .	8		
			<hr/> 5,089

It will thus be seen that an important section of the library is not strictly in place in the Academy, and, as has been already stated, when carefully arranged and catalogued, a large number of duplicates will doubtless be found. The gift, notwithstanding, is the most important the library has received, exclusively, since the I. V. Williamson Library Fund came into the possession of the Academy, and a brief account of the legacy, as a matter of permanent record, may not be out of place.

MR. JOHN G. MEIGS was born in Philadelphia in 1801. He was engaged during his active life in the manufacture and sale of shoes, his place of business being on the west side of Fifth Street above Chestnut. He was so well regarded by his friends and customers, because of his honorable dealing, as to have acquired the enviable name of "Honest John Meigs." By strict attention to his work and judicious investments in real estate, he laid the foundation of a fortune which enabled him later to retire from the cares of business life. While not himself a man of college education, he was fully aware of the desirability of intellectual training. His son, James Aitken Meigs, was therefore encouraged to take advantage of the public school system of education, culminating in the Boy's Central High School, from which he graduated in 1848. He then matriculated in Jefferson Medical College, from which he obtained his diploma as Doctor of Medicine in 1851. He was elected a member of the Academy the following year, and was immediately placed under those influences which were so important in determining his future distinguished career. He served as Librarian from August, 1856, until May, 1859, when he was compelled to resign the office in consequence of the increase of his professional engagements.

After his retirement from business, Mr. Meigs and the Doctor were much more intimately associated than is usually the case even with father and son. The mother having died July 28th, 1870, at the age of sixty years, the two men kept house together, during the latter years of their lives at No. 1408 Spruce Street, where they accumu-

lated the library which is now in the possession of the Academy. Notwithstanding the old gentleman's lack of literary and scientific training, there was a sufficient community of tastes between the two to establish a close fellowship, the son's pursuits being encouraged and his successes gloried in by the father. The premature and unexpected death of Dr. Meigs occurred November 9th, 1879, in his fiftieth year.

Appreciative biographical notices of Dr. Meigs have been published by Dr. H. C. Chapman in the Transactions of the College of Physicians of Philadelphia, 3d Ser., Vol. V, and by Dr. George Hamilton in the Transactions of the Medical Society of the State of Pennsylvania for 1880, so that it is not necessary to dwell further on the incidents of his career. The character of the library, as indicated by the classification here given, is sufficient evidence of the extraordinary catholicity of his tastes.

After the sad bereavement, his father, with a natural desire to remain surrounded by objects to which were attached such tender associations, declined to part with either books or instruments. The latter were carefully packed away, and the library remained just as the son had left it, until the death of Mr. Meigs.

Early in 1893 your Librarian was informed that a zealous but indiscreet member of another society had assured Mr. Meigs that the Academy not only did not desire possession of the library but, on account of its miscellaneous character, would decline to receive it were it offered. A statement of the utterly erroneous nature of this assertion was immediately sent to Mr. Meigs, and in an interview the following day he was assured that possession of at least the scientific portion of the collection was earnestly desired, and that its proper arrangement in connection with the Academy's library would be a memorial of Dr. Meigs most in harmony with his own desire and eminently fitting in view of his interest in the society and the substantial benefits he had derived from his association with it.

Mr. Meigs warmly expressed his sympathy with these views, but at once stated that the library would not be given to any society except on condition that it would be kept intact. His attention having been called to the fact that the books were entirely unclassified and that their usefulness would be greatly increased if properly grouped, he not only conceded this point but expressed his willingness that the scientific works should be arranged in connection with the

appropriate sections of the main library, if the gift were made to the Academy, but that before considering farther the propriety of making such gift or bequest he must be assured that none of the volumes would be parted with by sale or otherwise, but that, apart from the conceded arrangement of the scientific works, the rest of the collection should be kept together permanently as the James Aitken Meigs Library. This condition was accepted on behalf of the Academy by your Librarian in the presence of Mr. Meigs' friend, Dr. R. K. Hinton, and his housekeeper, Miss Lizzie Rogers.

A few days later the will was made, leaving to the Academy the books, scientific instruments and the sum of \$20,000, one-half of which is for the exclusive benefit of the library. The other half is left without restriction or condition and has not yet been specifically appropriated by the Council. Mr. Meigs died May 10th, 1895, and the library was shortly after removed to the Academy. It is confidently believed that the legacy depended on the agreement made with Mr. Meigs regarding the custodianship of the library. It is therefore held to be incumbent on the Academy to act in conformity with this understanding, although the wording of the will grants a greater degree of liberty.

The scientific portions of the James Aitken Meigs Library have been placed, as far as the present supply of case-room will permit, with the appropriate sections of the general library, the volumes being appropriately labelled; while the works on literature, philosophy, history, religion, etc., have been arranged temporarily in the Council room. The duplicates will ultimately be placed in the main library, when the Academy will, of course, be at liberty to dispose of the works replaced by them.

The late John H. Redfield, as a farther evidence of his long-continued interest in the botanical department of the Academy, directed by will the sale of his scientific library and collections, the receipts to be invested for the benefit of the Botanical Section. The books have been disposed of at auction. The duplicates included in the Meehan gift were sold at the same time by direction of Mr. Meehan, the sum realized to be applied to the same object: the increase of that which, by resolution of the Botanical Section, is to be known as the John H. Redfield Fund.

Through the foresight of the Corresponding Secretary a new section, which cannot fail to be of importance to the Department

of Instruction, has been added to the library during the year. It consists of a collection of lantern slides, for the purpose of lecture illustration. Those now in the possession of the Academy have been derived from the following sources: John G. Meigs' bequest 135, Prof. Alfred Bickmore 100, Dr. Benjamin Sharp 45, Prof. E. D. Cope 26, Dr. H. Skinner 16, and Prof. D. G. Elliot 4. The collection has been classified and catalogued by Dr. Sharp and is now ready for use.

Acknowledgment is again due Mr. Wm. J. Fox for the faithful and intelligent discharge of his duties as assistant to the Librarian during the past year.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

EDWARD J. NOLAN,  
*Librarian.*

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#### REPORT OF THE CURATORS.

The Curators report that the various collections in their charge are in a still more satisfactory state of preservation than at the time of their last annual report, while great progress has been made during the year in the rearrangement and cataloguing of the several departments and many valuable additions have been received.

Although the first floor of the new museum building is practically ready for exhibition, it has not yet been thrown open to the public, as the work of arranging and labelling, which yet remains to be done, would be very much hindered thereby. Mr. Clarence B. Moore has presented three additional cases for the display of the rich additions he has made to the Moore Archæological Collection, and his collections from the Florida Indian mounds and a series of aboriginal pottery specimens from the mounds of Ohio and Tennessee have been arranged in them. A large clay altar from Ohio has been mounted in a special case, and several maps and photographs, illustrating the collection, have been placed upon the walls.

The Professor of Ethnology and Archæology having been unable to devote any time to the arrangement of the collection in his department, Professor Putnam, of the Peabody Museum, Cambridge,